GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1661
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2016
Adulteration of Sweets
Nayak Shri B.V.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that sweets sold during various festivals like Diwali contained prohibited elements and that there is no mechanism for proper checking and sampling in the country;

(b) if so, the number of samples that were picked up on the occasion of Diwali in various parts of the country; and

(c) whether these samples were analysed for adulteration and action taken against the sweet vendors and stores in the country, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a): Instances of adulteration of food products including sweets increase during festival season. The implementation and enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006 primarily rests with the State/UT Governments. Regular surveillance, monitoring and sampling of food products is undertaken by the State/UT Governments and where any violation/infringement of rules/regulations is noticed, action is initiated as per provisions of the FSS Act and regulations thereunder. FSSAI has also in consultation with States developed a Surveillance Plan for ensuring safe and wholesome food for consumers. This Surveillance Plan provides adequate flexibility to the States to modify the same depending upon their local conditions and environment.
(b) & (c): While, separate information about samples picked up during festivals, is not maintained centrally, as per information made available by States/UTs, the total number of samples examined, samples found non-conforming to the prescribed standards, number of prosecutions launched and convictions during the year 2015-16 are as follows:
Total No. of samples examined 65,833
No. of Samples found non-conforming 14,283
No. of prosecutions launched 9,852
No. of convictions 516
No. of penalties 3,483
Amount of penalties raised (in Rs.) 21,19,08,436
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